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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gerhard Lechler

Title: WELDING DEVICE

U.S. National Phase of:
PCT/EP2004/014513,

Filed: December 15, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Mail Stop PCT-US/EO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO-1449 identifying six (6) references.
Also enclosed are copies of the six identified references.

The present application is the United States National Phase of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2004/014513. WO 03/099504; FR 2822743 A; and EP 0 830,916 A were each cited in the International Search Report issued in connection with the corresponding PCT application. Each of these three references was cited in Category A indicating that the reference merely

defined the general state of the art and was not considered to be of particular relevance to the original PCT claims.

DE 101 44 731 A1 and DE 33 27 510 C2 are both discussed as background information in the Background Section of the original PCT specification. EP 1 330 329 B1 is discussed in the Background Section of the PCT specification as revised before the International Bureau on October 13, 2005.

Applicant respectfully requests that the six enclosed references be formally cited of record in connection with the United States National Phase as generally illustrating the background state of the art.

Respectfully submitted,



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